

Beaumontii Tuck. Syn. Lich. 1: 245. 1882.¹ Primary squamules small to medium size, glaucescent above, white beneath, the margins lacinate to denticulate, KOH —; podetia glaucescent, esquamulose or scatteringly squamulose, cylindrical, becoming slenderly elongate, branched, the branches dichotomously divided; apices imperforate or occasionally minutely perforate, obtuse, cristate-denticulate; axils closed; cortex dispersed, soon minutely scattered, KOH —; apothecia brown.

The species is not truly granulose. (Cf. Tuck. l. c.; also see note 5). It is somewhat remote from the two preceding and under Wainio's arrangement of the genus would properly come under the section *Clausae* Wain.; possibly not far from *pityrea*. So far as known its distribution is wholly southern.

The writer is indebted to Dr. S. F. Blake for helpful criticisms and suggestions in the preparation of this paper and to Dr. C. W. Dodge for similar aid and also for assistance in the herbarium.

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EXPLANATION OF PLATE 157.

CLADONIA FLORIDANA Wain. Variations in development. Plants from Wareham, Massachusetts. Herb. C. A. Robbins, No. 540, a, b, c, d, e, f, g.

FIG. 1. Thallus with fertile and sterile plants; FIG. 2. Sterile plants from among grass in open pine woods (f. *brachiata*), a robust state; FIG. 3, Similar to No. 2 but more slender, the common form; FIG. 4, Plants with both fertile and sterile proliferations; FIG. 5, Fertile, squamulose plants (f. *typica*), robust specimens; FIG. 6, Fertile, esquamulose plants (f. *esquamosa*); FIG. 7, Sterile, squamulose plants (f. *elegans*).

SPARTINA PATENS AND OTHER SALINE PLANTS IN THE GENESEE VALLEY OF WESTERN NEW YORK.

W. C. MUENSCHER.

SPARTINA PATENS (Ait.) Muhl. was found on low swampy ground bordering Wolf Creek below the salt factory at Silver Springs, Wyoming County, New York. This grass, which, with *Juncus Gerardii* Loisel., forms a large part of the "wild hay" of the salt marshes of the Atlantic Coast, apparently has not previously been reported this far inland. The only New York State records that could be found for *Spartina patens* are those from Long Island and the vicinity of New York City.

¹ *Cl. stenophylliza* Wain., nom. nudum, (*Cl. stenophyllia* Merrill) in Sandst. Clad. Exs. No. 1184; from Sanford, Florida, leg. Rapp, is, as it is represented by the writer's set, a young state of this species.

The salt factory at Silver Springs is said to have been established about fifty years ago. The waste salt and brine has been, and still is being, dumped into Wolf Creek, with the result that its water is very salty from Silver Springs to where it enters the Genesee River, a distance of about three miles.

In this artificial saline habitat a number of salt plants have appeared. *Spartina patens* occurred in a pure stand over an area about thirty meters in diameter. Around the border of this area it was mixed with *Juncus Gerardii*. *Salicornia europaea* L., *Juncus Gerardii* and *Chenopodium glaucum* L. were common in a number of places along the shore of the stream. *Ruppia maritima* L. was very abundant in the stream, in some places completely covering the bottom of the stream for a distance of several hundred meters. *Enteromorpha intestinalis* (L.) Grev., a common green alga of the seashores, made a very profuse growth on the stones and other objects in Wolf Creek. In several places near the village of Castile where the water was flowing rapidly, its fronds attained a length of about one meter.

The observations here reported were made on August 30 and October 23, 1926. Specimens of the phanerogams mentioned, with determinations verified by Professor K. M. Wiegand, are deposited in the herbarium of Cornell University.

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SOIL REACTION OF *SAXIFRAGA* AIZOON ON MT. KATAHDIN.—In the note by Mr. Stebbins on plants new to Mt. Katahdin in the January number of *RHODORA*¹ he calls attention to the possibility that there may be a pocket of rich soil at the point where the *Saxifraga* and *Draba* are growing. I am glad to report that his view is correct. At the time when the first of these plants was originally discovered, Dr. I. M. Johnston turned over to me some of the soil attached to the roots, as received at the Gray Herbarium, and on testing it with the double-wedge comparator I found it to be exactly neutral. The lime producing this condition in the soil may have come from a local concentration of calcium minerals in the granite—which is well known to occur elsewhere in Maine, especially on Mt. Desert Island—or may have been set free by unusually thorough decomposition of the humus at this point. The thing most difficult to account for

¹ *RHODORA* xxix. 15-16 (1927).